



# **SR-262**

## **Montezuma Creek to Aneth**

### **environmental impact statement**

**SR-262 EIS; Montezuma Creek to Aneth  
Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)  
and Draft Section 4(F) Evaluation**

**September 2008**

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT, DRAFT SECTION 4(F) EVALUATION, AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
**PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NO.: FHWA-UT-EIS-08-02-D**

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Navajo Department of Transportation (Navajo DOT), and Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) are evaluating proposed improvements along an 8.5-mile stretch of State Route (SR-) 162 from Montezuma Creek to SR-162 just east of Aneth in San Juan County, Utah, including the intersection of SR-162 and SR-262. The alternatives proposed include the No Action alternative and alternatives that improve the roadway design and safety within the corridor.

A Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation have been prepared which assess the project's effects on the quality of human health and the environment in accordance with the provisions of Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 P.L. 91-190 (NEPA). Copies of the DEIS are available for review at the locations listed below (call for hours of operation) and will be available at the Public Hearing:

In Utah:

Aneth Chapter House  
East Highway 162  
Aneth, UT 85434  
Telephone: (435) 651-3525

Montezuma Creek Elementary School  
State Highway 162  
Montezuma Creek, UT 84534  
Telephone: (435) 678-1261

Whitehorse High School  
State Highway 162  
Montezuma Creek, UT 84534  
Telephone: (435) 678-1209

San Juan County – Planning Department  
117 South Main Street  
Monticello, UT 84535  
Telephone: (435) 587-3225

San Juan County Library – Blanding  
25 West 300 South  
Blanding, UT 84511  
Telephone: (435) 678-2335

In New Mexico:

Navajo Department of Transportation  
Navajo DOT Building  
1/2 Mile North of US 491 and Highway 64 Junction  
Shiprock, NM 87420  
Telephone: (505) 368-1552

Written comments on the DEIS and Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation must be postmarked on or before **Monday, October 20, 2008**. Comments should be mailed to Ms. Brenda Redwing, Area Engineer, Federal Highway Administration, 2520 West 4700 South, Suite 9A, Salt Lake City, UT, 84118, Tel. 801-963-0182. The DEIS and Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation are available on the project's website: [www.udot.utah.gov/sr-262](http://www.udot.utah.gov/sr-262).

Copies also may be obtained by contacting Amalia Deslis, URS Corporation, 756 East Winchester Street, Suite 400, Salt Lake City, UT 84107, Tel. 801-904-4017, e-mail: [amalia\\_deslis@urscorp.com](mailto:amalia_deslis@urscorp.com), or by fax: 801-904-4100.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

In accordance with the provisions of Title 23, US Code, Section 128 and Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 1500 to 1508, a Public Hearing to present the DEIS and receive public comments will be held as follows:

**DATE:**                   **Wednesday, September 24, 2008**

**LOCATION:**           Aneth Chapter House  
                            East Highway 162  
                            Aneth, UT  
                            Telephone: (435) 651-3525

**SCHEDULE:**           Open House/Public Comment  4 p.m. – 7 p.m.  
(Informal review of materials and discussion with project staff, and  
public comment period)

## **ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMENTS**

Persons wishing to provide comments on the DEIS and Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation will have opportunity to do so orally and/or in writing at the Public Hearing, or by providing written comments by the comment deadline. Oral comments will be accepted during the public comment portions of the Hearing beginning at 4 p.m. The comments will be recorded by a court reporter. The reporter will be able to take comments in the Navajo language as well as in English.

Written statements and other exhibits may be filed in place of or in addition to oral statements made at the hearing. Written statements will be accepted at the Hearing and until the comment deadline. Written statements must be postmarked no later than Monday, October 20, 2008 and addressed to Ms. Brenda Redwing, Area Engineer, Federal Highway Administration, 2520 West 4700 South, Suite 9A, Salt Lake City, UT 84118. Comments received on the DEIS will be addressed in the Final Environmental Impact Statement.

For further information about the project or the Public Hearing, please contact Ms. Brenda Redwing, Tel. 801-963-0182.

In accordance with Americans with Disabilities Act, please advise Ms. Deslis (contact information listed above) by Wednesday, September 17, 2008 if you require a sign language interpreter, assistive listening system, translator, or any other accommodation(s) to facilitate your participation in the Hearing.

**Identification Number:**  
FHWA-UT-EIS-08-02-D

**Project Number:**  
STP-0262(8)23E

**SR-262 EIS; Montezuma Creek to Aneth**

**Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation**

Submitted Pursuant to 42 U.S.C 4332(2)(c) and 49 U.S.C. 303

by the

U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration

Navajo Department of Transportation

and

Utah Department of Transportation

8-26-08

Date of Approval

Brenda Redwing

For Federal Highway Administration

8/26/08

Date of Approval

Aug 26, 2008

Date of Approval

Michele Morris

For Navajo Department of Transportation

L. Bland

For Utah Department of Transportation

The following persons may be contacted for additional information concerning this document:

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Division of Community Development  
P.O. Box 4755  
Window Rock, AZ 86515  
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The FHWA, Navajo DOT, and UDOT are proposing improvements to an 8.5-mile segment of SR-162 from Montezuma Creek to Aneth, Utah. This project is located in San Juan County, Utah and on the Navajo Nation. The project also includes improvements to the intersections of SR-162, SR-262, and County Road 450 in Montezuma Creek.

Comments on this DEIS are due by October 20, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. to Ms. Brenda Redwing (FHWA) at the address listed above

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## *List of Acronyms*

AADT	Annual Average Daily Traffic
AASHTO	American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials
ACHP	Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
APE	Area of Potential Effect
API	American Petroleum Institute
ASTM	American Society for Testing Materials
AV	Aquic Ustifluvents
BA	Biological Assessment
BBL	Barrels of Oil or Water
BD	Badland
BE	Biological Evaluation
BGEPA	Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act
BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
BMIII	Basketmaker A.D. 500-700
BMP	Best Management Practice
CAA	Clean Air Act
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
cm	Centimeters
CO	Carbon Monoxide
CR	County Road
CSS	Context Sensitive Solutions
CWA	Clean Water Act
dB	Decibel
dBA	A-weighted decibel level
DEIS	Draft Environmental Impact Statement
DOE-FOE	Determination of Eligibility and Finding of Effect
DOT	Department of Transportation
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EJ	Environmental Justice
EMS	Emergency Management Service
EMT	Emergency Management Technician
EO	Executive Order
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
EPCRA	Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FR	Final Rule
FTA	Federal Transit Administration
HHS	Department of Health and Human Services

ISTEA	Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act
JD	Jurisdictional Determination
Ldn	Unit of measurement that represents the A-weighted Leq for a 24-hour period with an added 10 decibel penalty for noise that occurs between 10 pm and 7 am
LEDPA	Least Environmentally Damaging Practicable Alternative
Leq(h)	Level of sound measurement
LUST	Leaking Underground Storage Tank
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
MCF	1,000 cubic feet of Natural Gas
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
M.P.	Mile Post
mph	Miles Per Hour
MSAT	Mobile Source Air Toxics
N/A	Not Applicable
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NaB	Nakai Loamy Fine Sand
NAC	Noise Abatement Criteria
NDOT	Navajo Department of Transportation
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NHP	Natural Heritage Program
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NISC	National Invasive Species Council
NLEV	Nation Low Emission Vehicle
NNAD	Navajo Nation Archaeology Department
NNC	Navajo Nation Code
NNDFW	Navajo Nation Department of Fish and Wildlife
NNEPA	Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency
NNFWS	Navajo Nation Fish and Wildlife Service
NNHP	Navajo Natural Heritage Program
NNHPD	Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department
NOA	Notice of Availability
NOI	Notice of Intent
NO <sub>2</sub>	Nitrogen Dioxide
NO <sub>x</sub>	Nitrogen
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NPS	National Park Service
NRCS	Natural Resource Conservation Service
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
O <sub>3</sub>	Ozone
PI	Pueblo A.D. 700 - 900
PII	Pueblo A.D. 900 - 1100
PIII	Pueblo A.D. 1100 – 1300
PA	Programmatic Agreement
PEM	Palustrine Emergent
PI	Public Involvement

PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Particulate Matter 2.5 microns in diameter or smaller
PM <sub>10</sub>	Particulate Matter 10 microns in diameter or smaller
PSS	Palustrine Scrub/Shrub
RFG	Reformulated Gasoline
ROD	Record of Decision
ROW	Right-of-Way
SAFETEA-LU	Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Officer
SITLA	Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration
SO <sub>x</sub>	Sulfur Oxide
STIP	Statewide Transportation Improvement Program
SR	State Route
SWPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
SWWFL	Southwestern Will Flycatcher
T&E	Threatened and Endangered
TCP	Traditional Cultural Property
TDM	Transportation Demand Management
TEA-21	Transportation Equity Act for the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century
THPO	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
TNM	Traffic Noise Model
TPQ	Threshold Planning Quantity
TSM	Transportation System Management
UDEQ	Utah Department of Environmental Quality
UDOT	Utah Department of Transportation
UDWQ	Utah Division of Water Quality
UDWR	Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
UGS	Utah Geological Survey
UNHP	Utah Natural Heritage Program
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
U.S.C	United States Code
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
USFS	United States Forest Service
USGS	United States Geological Survey
USS	Utah Sensitive Species
UST	Underground Storage Tank
VMT	Vehicle Miles Travelled
VOC	Volatile Organic Compound
vpd	Vehicles Per Day